

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

----- X

New York, New York

September 27, 2006

In re: Entry into U.S. National Phase of:
Application No.: PCT/EP2005/003189
International filing date: 24 March 2005
Inventor: CROTTI, Silvio
Title: APPARATUS FOR DETECTING JOINTS IN RUBBER
SHEETS

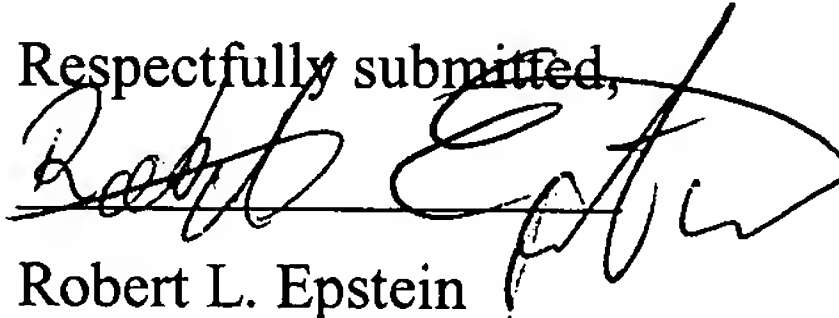
-----X

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In the present application please substitute the enclosed new claims 1 and 13 for examination before the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert L. Epstein
Reg. No. 26,451
EPSTEIN, DRANGEL
BAZERMAN & JAMES, LLP
Attorneys for Applicants
60 East 42nd Street, Suite 820
New York, New York 10165
Tel. No. (212) 292-5390
Fax. No. (212) 292-5391